## LT. GOVERNOR JOHN GARAMENDI ISSUES STATEMENT IN CELEBRATION OF LUNAR NEW YEAR

SACRAMENTO – California Lt. Governor John Garamendi issued the following statement on the celebrations of the Lunar New Year, beginning with the new moon and continues until the full moon in two weeks:

"I am delighted to celebrate the Lunar New Year with all Californians. For nearly 5,000 years, Lunar New Year is the most celebrated tradition in Asia, signifying new beginnings, the coming of spring, and most importantly, the strength of families as they gather to share their thanks, blessings, and their appreciation for their ancestors. It is a time to reflect the year past and welcome the year ahead with joy and happiness.

"California is home to more than one-third of all Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in the United States. They are among the fastest growing racial and ethnic groups in the state and are an integral part of California's rich cultural diversity.

"As we celebrate the festivities and look toward the year ahead, I wish you and your families a prosperous year and good health."

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